

PARKS, RECREATION AND CEMETERIES COMMISSION MINUTES
February 5, 2015 – REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON BEBEE

Chairperson Bebee called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Bebee, Kelsey, Kwas, Lee, Turner, Thorburn

Absent: Wilson

Staff: Marcus Kirkpatrick & Lindsay Ross

Guests: Gloria Kovnot & Carol Goergen

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 8, 2014

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

None

4. SPECIAL EVENTS

- A. Daddy Daughter Dance – The dance will be held on Monday, February 23. The event will take place at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West.
- B. Mother Son Dance – The dance will be held on Wednesday, March 18. Each boy will receive a sling backpack with the Delta Township logo.
- C. Meet & Greet with the Easter Bunny - The event has been moved to the Activity Room at the Enrichment Center and will take place on March 31. For the 6-7pm event, each child will participate in Easter crafts and games. The event is free to the public.

5. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Senior Coordinator – Tammy Opdyke
 - ☐ Health Care Clinics included Foot Care & Chair Massage, with 22 people attending.
 - ☐ Lunch Bunch was held at Flap Jack Restaurant on January 27. There were 18 participants.
 - ☐ This month's guest speaker was Barb Kellogg from the Parks Department. Barb shared information on the new Delta Township Senior Council.
- B. Aquatics Coordinator – Dave Hill
 - ☐ Youth & Adult Swim classes began on January 10, with 91 children, 6 adults, and 2 private lessons.
 - ☐ 769 people participated in the water aerobics program during the month of January. The Deep Water Aerobics classes had 263 participants.
 - ☐ An Aquatics Open House was held on January 30. The 26 participants were able to sample classes and enjoy snacks, prizes, and games.
- C. Recreation Specialist – Jen Daly
 - ☐ Youth Recreation Basketball started on January 10, with 160 participants.
 - ☐ Youth Spring Soccer deadline is on February 20. Additional coaches training will be offered this year.
- D. Recreation Programmer – Kathy Sobczyk
 - ☐ The Spring Magazine will be completed and sent to the printer on February 27.
 - ☐ Delta Township will be included in the Grand Ledge Insider Magazine. The magazine comes out twice a year and Delta Township will provide information relating to Delta residents.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015, PARKS, RECREATION AND CEMETERIES - REGULAR
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

E. Recreation Coordinator – Barbara Sherbo Kellogg

- ☐ The Winter Warm up & Choosing Health Rally was held on January 24, at the Lansing Mall. Parks & Recreation programs were showcased and township information was shared to the many participants.
- ☐ The Delta Rocks! Business Expo applications have been sent. The inflatables and petting zoo have been booked. Planning will continue for the June event.
- ☐ Applications for the new Senior Council have been sent. The first meeting will be scheduled in March.

F. Parks Supervisor Report –Pat Schieding

- ☐ The department has been busy with snow removal at township buildings, parks, and sidewalks.
- ☐ The department has assisted with the installation of the new art sculpture.

G. Director's Report

- ☐ Jen Daly, Lindsay Ross, and Pat Schieding will be attending the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association Conference. The conference will be held on February 9-13, at the Lansing Center.
- ☐ Parks & Recreation staff will be meeting with the Interim Township Manager, Planner, and Engineer to determine grants to submit for the 2015 DNR grant process.
- ☐ Lt. Mark Wrigglesworth will be attending next month's meeting to discuss the 2015 Fireworks.
- ☐ Clerk Mary Clark will attend the March meeting to discuss/review the cemetery rules & regulations.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Volunteer Recognition Event – Lindsay Ross shared plans for the new Volunteer Recognition Event. The event will recognize annual township volunteers for their contributions. The event will be held at Grand Woods Park on April 18.
- B. Grand Woods Park – Marcus shared information received back from the City of Lansing. Lansing has offered to sell Grand Woods Park to the township for \$640,000. The Commission needs to provide a recommendation to the Township Board to accept or reject the current price. If rejected, the Commission is also being asked to suggest a fair price for the park. Commissioner Turner asked about the history of the original lease and if the purchase of the park had ever been discussed. Commissioner Kwas asked if the interim-manager has already made an offer of \$600,000. Commissioner Kwas also stated that due to the timing, the purchase of Grand Woods Park should not be overlooked for the Mount Hope Park project. Marcus updated the commission on the initial meeting with the City of Lansing where potential prices were discussed. Commissioner Bebee recommended that the commission consider the entire Parks Master Plan before agreeing to spend this amount on this park. Commissioner Kelsey shared that the township has cared for the park for the last 30 years and was concerned with the price. Commissioner Lee reviewed the appraisal and compared the farm land used to arrive at the appraised value. Commissioner Lee also stated the park would not be in high demand for purchase. Commissioner Thorburn asked about if a millage was possible to purchase the park. Commissioner Thorburn also expressed how important the park is to the entire community.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015, PARKS, RECREATION AND CEMETERIES - REGULAR
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: by Commissioner Kelsey, Supported by Commissioner Lee to:

Recommend to the Township Board to reject the purchase of Grand Woods Park for \$640,000. Motion carried 6-0.

The commission continued discussion with each commissioner expressing their support to keep the park. However, the commission felt that a fair price to purchase the park is \$350,000 with a maximum of \$400,000.

Commissioner Kwas shared information from the Eaton County Parks strategic planning session. Eaton County has interest in purchasing Anderson Park.

- C. Waverly East Pool - Marcus shared an update on the condition of the locker rooms and pool. The locker rooms are deteriorating. Although the department has made improvements over the years, safety is a serious concern. After meeting with school personnel, it was determined that the school district has no interest in improving the conditions. Staff will work with other township departments to determine the cost of upgrading the facility and/or the future of the pool.
- D. Fireworks 2015 – Lt. Wigglesworth will be joining us for our March meeting.
- E. Government Senior Council – Marcus shared adoption of the Senior Council. Our marketing efforts have led to a lot of excitement for the council. Township resident, Gloria Kovnot, shared her involvement with the Township Board on developing the council. Kovnot also shared her involvement with recruiting seniors and potential projects she would like to council to consider. Township resident, Carol Goergen, also shared potential parks and community projects for inter-generational opportunities.
- F. Curbside Recycling – Marcus updated the commission on the progress of the agreement with Granger. The final recommendation to the board should take place in February.
- G. C2AE – Commissioner Kelsey ask for an update on the agreement with C2AE. Marcus shared that the original agreement did not include the 2nd parcel. The new agreement will allow the final schematic plan to include the 2nd parcel, once it's purchased.

7. Public Comment

Township resident Goergen shared her thoughts on the deteriorating pool. She stated that a fair amount of showers do not work. Goergen also suggested that the Senior Council play an active role in finding a solution for the pool.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Kelsey, support by Thorburn to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A Thorburn

Barbara A. Thorburn, Secretary
Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries Commission